The drug or formulations reported to be discontinued in some deveoped countries are assessed in consultation with leading experts in the given specializations. Based on their advice and factors like benefit-risk ratio, local needs etc. the matter is placed before the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), a statutory body under Drug & Cosmetics Act which comprises of representatives from the medical profession, the state drug enforcement authorities and other experts, institutions and agencies and which advises Government on technical issues related to the implementations of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 194-and Rules, 1945.

Construction of A super Speciality Hospitai-Cum-Research Centre at Madurai

544. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has forwarded a proposal for construction of super speciality Hospital-cum-research centre at Madurai on the lines of AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the year 2001, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had recieved a copy of the proposal sent by the Government of Tamil Nadu to the Planning Commission for establishing a Referral Hospital and Institute of Post Ggaduate Medical Education and Research near Madurai at a total cost of Rs. 123.10 crores envisaging provision of all modern facilities required for super specialities.

Health being a State subject, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is not having any scheme for providing financial assistance to the State Govenrments for setting up institutions in the field of medicine and health. This position was informed to the Planning commission and also to the Government ofTamil Nadu.